

## **Press Release**

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Contact: Stephanie Lesko  
Public Affairs Specialist  
Phone: (703) 603-2146  
Fax: (703) 603-0655  
E-mail: [slesko@jwod.gov](mailto:slesko@jwod.gov)

### **GSA MarkeTips Editor Receives Coin**

Arlington, VA – Emily LeDuc was honored today by the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled (Committee) for her outstanding support to the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program. Providing jobs to more than 46,000 people who are blind or have other severe disabilities, the JWOD Program is the single largest source of employment for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities in the United States. The Committee coin is given to a select number of individuals who staunchly support the JWOD Program and its mission.

"I am honored to present the Committee coin to Ms. LeDuc. She has done an excellent job of promoting the JWOD Program and individuals who are blind or have other severe disabilities," said Andrew Houghton, Committee Chairperson.

Emily LeDuc is the Managing Editor of GSA's MarkeTips publication. For five years Emily has been an invaluable proponent for the JWOD Program by ensuring that JWOD products are highlighted in the GSA Global Supply section. One recent example as to how she promotes the JWOD Program above and beyond the call of duty is the September/October 2006 edition, which is dedicated solely to the JWOD Program.

This publication helps increase awareness of the JWOD Program, as MarkeTips is distributed to 100,000 government customers and industry representatives worldwide.

In this issue, Emily generously features a "lucky 13" product and service ads. And she eagerly included many more product highlights than normal, in the Global Supply section.

Emily includes her personal testimony in the issue regarding the importance of the JWOD Program to the individuals we serve and our society. Further, she's committed to including a JWOD section in all future MarkeTips issues, including the just-released November/December issue.

The Committee coin with presentation box were presented at the Committee meeting.

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The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled is an independent Federal agency that administers the JWOD Program, which creates

employment opportunities for persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. The Committee's primary means of achieving its employment goal is through orchestrating Government purchases of supplies and services from nonprofit agencies employing such individuals.

National Industries for the Blind is one of the two national, nonprofit organizations designated by the Committee to assist in the implementation of the JWOD Program. Together with NISH, which serves people with a range of disabilities, these two agencies assist over 600 community-based nonprofit agencies participate in the JWOD Program.